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✓ BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY
OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1955

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1 9 5 5

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

C. B. McARTHUR, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Chief Sanitary Inspector: R.J. Lewis, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

* Sanitary Inspector: T.H. Powel, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

* Commenced duties April 18th, 1955.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Sanitary Inspector: J.V. Meredith, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector: G. Fawcett, C.S.I.B.

Clerk: Mrs. O. Darlington.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health for Oswestry Borough
and Rural Health Districts:

Miss L. Williams.

OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS

Public Health Office,
8, Oswald Road,
Oswestry,
Shropshire.

To the Mayor, Chairman, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Oswestry Borough and Rural District Councils.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your perusal my Annual
Report for 1955.

The contents include the information requested by the
Minister of Health.

The Birth Rate for the Oswestry Borough and Rural Health
Districts was 13.9 per 1,000 which is 0.3 higher than that for
1954, and 1.1 lower than the National figure for 1955.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 22.7 per 1,000, 5.0 lower
than that for 1954, and 2.2 lower than the National figure
for 1955.

The Death Rate was 12.8 per 1,000, compared to 14.4 in
1954, and was 1.1 higher than the National figure for 1955.

The Tuberculosis Rate was 0.06 per 1,000 compared to the
National figure of 0.13.

This year I am glad to be able to report again that no mother lost her life in childbirth, that the Still Birth Rate was 0.31 per 1,000 (National Rate 0.34) the Infant Mortality Rate was 22.7 per 1,000 live births (National Rate 24.9), and the Neo-Mortality Rate (including deaths of infants under one month) was 16.0 compared to 27.7 last year.

The low figures in these tables are a reflection on the careful work of doctors, and midwives both in the Hospital and at homes in ante-natal and intra-natal care of the mothers and their infants.

Last year I reported that Cancer had increased and I must do so again this year, 74 deaths having been notified. It is tragic that a disease, curable if detected and treated in its early stages, should be allowed by many through ignorance or fear to continue until it has spread so that cure is impossible.

Once again cancer of the lung and bronchus has claimed an increased number of victims (11 as against 8 in 1954).

On page 16 is a graph showing the steady increase in cancer of the lung and bronchus. The graph also shows how, in recent years, deaths due to cancer of the uterus and breast (sites where early diagnosis should be possible) have declined.

Much research into the cause of cancer is being carried

out, and so far results show that certain substances (particularly derivatives of soot, tar, and tobacco) acting over a period of twenty or more years are commonly found in the history of a case of cancer of the skin or lung. A blow on the breast may result in the discovery of a cancerous growth fifteen or twenty years later, and a gastric ulcer may after many years show malignant change.

Unfortunately many people have such a fear of cancer that they delay seeking medical advice till too late for a complete cure and other cases who have obtained early treatment fail to publicise the fact that they have been cured.

The spring and summer saw a considerable epidemic of measles, most of the cases being mild, and a mild outbreak of whooping cough.

Food Poisoning has increased. Several of the cases were doubtless due to the unusually warm summer promoting quicker reproduction of bacteria in food (meat cooked at home and consumed after an interval), but one was due to contamination with mouse typhoid organisms.

May I say that I am indebted to the general practitioners for the notification of infectious disease as it occurs in their practices, and their cooperation by the earliest possible

notification (in certain cases by telephone followed by the customary form) enables the Health Department to initiate preventive measures and to follow up contacts or suspects without delay.

Much time has been devoted to the survey of the older and low-rated property requested by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and in the text of the report will be found the numbers of houses regarded as of low standard.

A Clearance Area was declared in July by the Oswestry Borough Council in respect of the area lying between Castle Street, Beatrice Street, Albert Road and including the houses on both sides of Cripplegate. This covers the most densely populated area of the town, and one where many of the houses are totally lacking in amenities and the structure and layout are most unsatisfactory.

In the Rural District the substandard houses are scattered, and it will be found more practicable to deal with them individually.

The completion of new houses has enabled many families living in substandard houses and hutments to be rehoused in Council houses, and their previous homes have been condemned and closed or demolished.

I hope that 1956 and 1957 will see an increased number of houses available for rehousing families from existing houses which are unfit for human habitation.

The low rainfall of 1955 has made a heavy drain on our resources, and increased amounts of water were purchased from Liverpool Corporation.

In the Rural District new mains carry water from the new reservoir at Moelydd to parts of Nantmawr, Treflach, Trefoncn and Whitehaven.

The new sewage works at Morda are in operation.

New legislation includes the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, the provisions of which are to be enforced by all local authorities. These lay down standards for cleanliness of food premises and the people who work in them. Included in the regulations are instructions as to the provision of sanitary conveniences and washing facilities which are to be kept clean and in efficient order. Near every sanitary convenience a notice requesting users to wash their hands after using the convenience is to be displayed.

I would like again to express my thanks to the Chief Sanitary Inspectors of the Borough and Rural Districts, to

the other members of the Public Health Departments, and also to my colleagues in the other departments for help given throughout the year and for their contributions to this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. B. MCARTHUR,,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1956.

GENERAL STATISTICS

1 9 5 5.

The following are the general statistics for the Oswestry Borough and Rural Health Districts:-

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Area in acres	2,180
Population figure given by the Registrar General	10,960
No. of inhabited houses on Rate Book at end of 1955 ..	3,537
Rateable value	£88,394
Sum represented by a penny rate	£399.14.1

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Area in acres	61,527
Population figure given by the Registrar General	20,610
No. of inhabited houses on Rate Book at end of 1955 ..	5,222
Rateable value	£86,133
Sum represented by a penny rate	£338.0.11

COMBINED DISTRICTS

Area in acres	63,707
Population of whole district	31,570
Area of County of Shropshire	861,800
Population of County of Shropshire	297,000

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Live births.</u>			
Legitimate	77	82	159
Illegitimate	5	2	7
	82	84	166

Birth rate per 1,000 population 15.1

Birth rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 14.9

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Deaths</u>	67	57	124

Death rate per 1,000 population 11.3

Death rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 10.4

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Still births.</u>			
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	2	3

Still birth rate per 1,000 population 0.27

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1955.-6

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births 36.1

Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Live births.</u>			
Legitimate	141	127	268
Illegitimate	1	4	5
	142	131	273

Birth rate per 1,000 population 13.2

Birth rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 15.6

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Deaths</u>	148	134	282

Death rate per 1,000 population 13.7

Death rate after correction by comparability factor . . . 14.6

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Still births.</u>			
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	4	3	7

Still birth rate per 1,000 population 0.34

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Number of children under 1 year of age who died in 1955.- 4

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births 14.6

Number of Women dying in consequence of child birth.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

BIRTHS, DEATHS, STILL BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY

FOR THE OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Still Births	Still Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mortality Per 1,000 Live Births
OSWESTRY M.B.	166	15.1	124	11.3	3	0.27	6	36.1	-	-
OSWESTRY R.D.	273	13.2	282	13.7	7	0.34	4	14.6	-	-
TOTAL	439	13.9	406	12.8	10	0.31	10	22.7	-	-
COUNTY OF SALOP 1954.	4488	15.0	3430	11.5	118	0.39	110	24.51	3	0.65
ENGLAND AND WALES	664711	15.0	518657	11.7	15748	0.34	16515	24.9	437	0.64

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	OSWESTRY M.B.	OSWESTRY R.D.	TOTAL	1954.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1	1	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	7	12	16
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus . .	2	9	11	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5	5	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	34	46	36
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1	3
Diabetes	1	5	6	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system . .	17	28	45	67
Coronary disease, angina	24	40	64	57
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	6	6
Other heart disease	19	76	95	112
Other circulatory disease	8	14	22	21
Influenza	1	6	7	8
Pneumonia	1	6	7	11
Bronchitis	7	7	14	15
Other diseases of the Resp. system . .	2	1	3	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	3	3	7
Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea . .	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1	-
Congenital malformations	2	2	4	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	22	31	40
Motor vehicle accidents	2	4	6	8
All other accidents	2	4	6	9
Suicide	1	2	3	4
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
All causes	124	282	406	457

INFANT MORTALITY

DISTRICT	Under 1 day		1 - 7 days		7 days - 1 month		1 - 3 months		3 - 6 months		6 - 9 months		9 - 12 months		Total		Combined total	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	4	6	36.1
OSWESTRY R.D.	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	14.6
TOTAL	2	2	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	7	10	22.8
ENGLAND AND WALES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.9

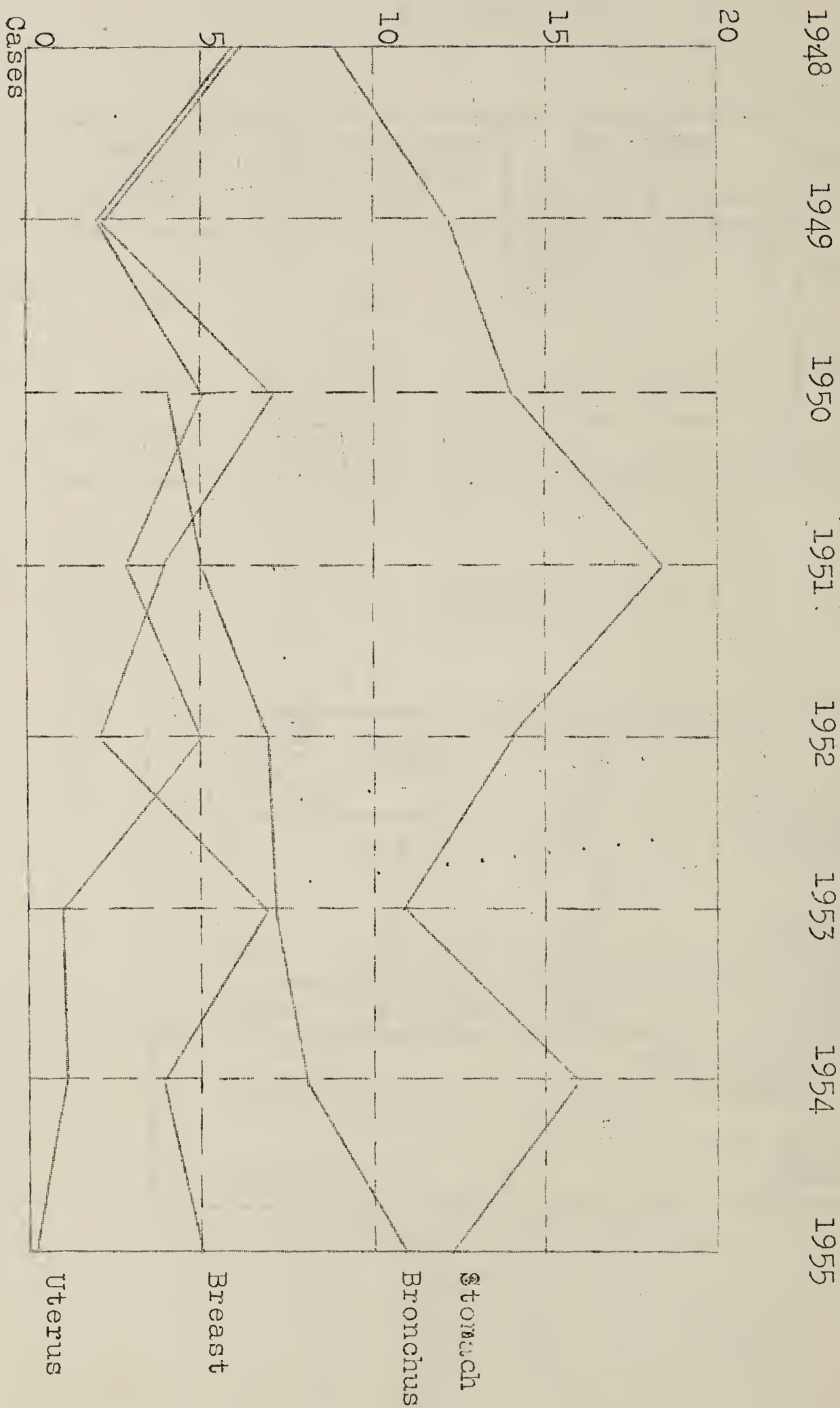
NEO-MORTALITY

DISTRICT	Deaths of infants under 1 month			Percentage of total infant deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
	M.	F.	Total		
OSWESTRY M.B.	2	2	4	66	24.1
OSWESTRY R.D.	1	2	3	75	11.0
TOTAL	3	4	7	70	16.0

CANCER

	Deaths		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
	M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	15	4	19	1.73
OSWESTRY R.D.	30	25	55	2.66
TOTAL	45	29	74	2.34
COUNTY OF SALOP (1954).				1.79
ENGLAND AND WALES				2.05

OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL HEALTH DISTRICTS DEATHS FROM CANCER OF CERTAIN SITES.



AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1955.

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MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR THE
OSWESTRY BOROUGH AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1955.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Erysipelas	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	-	1	-	1	-
Measles	1	11	55	223	133	115	43	42	9	-	-	-
Poliomylclitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	6	3	-	1	3	-	1	3	-	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	11	27	18	16	7	25	3	7	1	-	-	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1955.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.

Ages.	Food Poisoning		Measles		Pneumonia		Polio-myelitis		Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	F. -	3	3
1-	-	-	16	24	-	-	-	-	-	6	5
3-	-	-	20	26	-	1	-	-	-	10	9
5-	-	-	55	60	-	1	-	-	-	9	9
10-	1	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
25-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45-	2	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	2	-	5	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	6	2	98	117	8	6	-	-	1	29	27

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1955.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Ages.	Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Measles		Pneumonia		Polio-myelitis		Puer-peral Pyrexia		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
1-	-	-	-	1	37	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	7
3-	-	-	-	-	48	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
5-	-	-	-	-	128	99	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	11	15
10-	-	-	-	-	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	2	1	3	224	193	6	5	1	-	1	1	6	1	28	32

FOOD POISONING, 1955

DISTRICT	M.	F.	Total
OSWESTRY M.B.	6	2	8
OSWESTRY R.D.	1	3	4
TOTAL	7	5	12

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS, 1955

DISTRICT	Under 5	5 - 15	Total	Re-inforcing injections
OSWESTRY M.B.	117	40	157	241
OSWESTRY R.D.	109	36	145	192

VACCINATIONS, 1955

DISTRICT	Percentage of children under the age of 1 yr. vaccinated	Under 1	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	Over 14	Total	Re-vaccination
OSWESTRY M.B.	35.5	59	1	4	8	8	80	14
OSWESTRY R.D.	37.7	100	1	7	5	9	122	31

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATIONS, 1955

DISTRICT	Total Numbers Immunised in 1955
OSWESTRY M.B.	132
OSWESTRY R.D.	124

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND IMMUNISATION

Apart from an isolated case of Diphtheria in 1952 this disease has not occurred in Oswestry since immunisation was introduced: Immunisation is now accepted by the vast majority of parents as a safeguard to their children's health, and few have to be pressed to bring their infants for immunisation and for a booster dose when starting school.

Unfortunately I find that the small number of school entrants who have not been immunised is increasing, and that this is due in the majority of cases to indolence on the part of the parents, who readily consent to immunisation once the child has started school when it can be done without causing them any trouble.

Unfortunately among cases of diphtheria in certain areas many of those infected were children in the 1-5 year age group who had not yet been immunised.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is being asked for by many parents.

Those cases of whooping cough who had previously been immunised were mild in severity, and in most cases occurred when the child was over 3 years old, and so better able to stand the strain of the disease.

VACCINATION

It is a matter of regret that, whereas immunisation is sought after, vaccination against smallpox is only performed in less than half the infants.

Now that air travel from the East and Middle East, where smallpox is endemic, is so common, the unvaccinated members of the population are vulnerable should a case of smallpox develop in this district.

Vaccination performed in early infancy causes a minimum of disturbance and renders revaccination at a later age less likely to evoke marked general effects.

TUBERCULOSIS

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Notifications during 1955.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases	2	-	-	1	2	1
Service cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	2	1	-	-	2	1
TOTAL	4	1	-	1	4	2
Cured	-	1	-	-	-	1
Left district	1	2	-	-	1	2
Deaths	1	-	-	-	1	-

Number of cases on Register at end of 1955.

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
57	25	4	5	61	30

Number of Primary Notifications in 1955.- 4.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT

Notifications during 1955.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases	3	5	-	1	3	6
Service cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	1	-	2	1	3	1
TOTAL	4	5	2	2	6	7
Cured	2	1	-	-	2	1
Left district	3	-	-	-	3	-
Deaths	1	-	1	-	2	-

Number of cases on Register at end of 1955.

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
34	27	11	10	45	37

Number of Primary Notifications in 1955.- 9.

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE SHOWING NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE OSWESTRY BOROUGH
AND RURAL DISTRICTS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

	Respiratory		Total	Non- respiratory		Total	Combined total
	M.	F.		M.	F.		
OSWESTRY M.B.	4	1	5	-	1	1	6
OSWESTRY R.D.	4	5	9	2	2	4	13
TOTAL	8	6	14	2	3	5	19

Death Rate per 1,000 population(Respiratory Tuberculosis)

COMBINED DISTRICTS 0.06

ENGLAND AND WALES 0.13

Unfortunately the Mobile Mass X-ray Unit based on Stoke-on-Trent was not able to visit Oswestry this year.

The importance of good housing and an adequate diet in the prevention of this disease has been mentioned in earlier reports.

To this I would add the desirability of adequate rest in the group of young people aged 15 - 30 which is the common age of onset.

Education is given at the Chest Clinic and Sanatoria by doctors and nurses in the hope of preventing further cases arising in the patient's family or visiting friends. Unfortunately where the patient cannot have a bedroom to himself, passage of infection becomes more probable.

B.C.G. vaccination to protect young children and infants where there is a family history of Tuberculosis is being used in certain cases under the care of the Chest Physician; and the disease itself is being treated by the drugs introduced during the past 10 years.

CLINICS AND HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT

TUBERCULOSIS

The Physician attends at:-

OSWESTRY: The Clinic, Upper Brook Street, every Friday
from 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

SHREWSBURY: The Chest Clinic, Copthorne Hospital, every
Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Facilities for treatment.- Clinics.

Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and the one available for this area is given below, the Medical Officer attending on the days and at the hours given.

SHREWSBURY: 1, Belmont.

Thursdays and Fridays: Men - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Mondays: Women - 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Wednesdays: Women - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

HOSPITALS

Oswestry and District Hospital.

Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, treats cases of Enteric Fever, Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis or Acute Encephalitis.

Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury, admits other cases of Infectious Disease such as Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

Other hospitals which provide accommodation for the district are:-

The County Council Hospital, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury.

The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

The Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury.

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital,
Oswestry.

All these hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which was constituted in accordance with the National Health Service Act.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act it became the duty of the County Council, the Local Health Authority under the Act, to make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness and expectant mothers or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. Telephone: Shrewsbury 4389.

The Bacteriologist is Dr. A.C. Jones, and the Pathologist Dr. G. Grant.

This Service is based on the Royal Salop Infirmary and

undertakes work for Local Authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. It is invaluable particularly in the expeditious dealing with the bacteriological examination of food samples.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The Blood Transfusion Service Unit based on Birmingham visits Oswestry twice each year when a large number of public spirited citizens attend.

New volunteers are constantly required to take the place of those leaving the district or reaching "retiring age", and to keep pace with the increasing demand for blood transfusion as a part of Hospital treatment.

Major Deedes, Honorary Organiser for Shropshire has kindly supplied the following figures:-

Oswestry 1955.	<u>Attended</u>	<u>Bled</u>	<u>New Donors</u>	
			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	261	247	18	7

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA
WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Water Engineer for the following notes on water supply, etc.

Rainfall at the Penygwely Reservoirs for the year was 32.39 inches. Consumption for the year 157,699,000 gallons.

During July, August, September and October the rainfall was 5.77 inches compared with the average of 13.72 inches.

May was the wettest month with 4.73 inches.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses supplied from public water:-

(2) Number of population supplied from public mains:-

(a) direct to houses (1) 3,517

(2) 10,850

(b) by means of stand pipes (1) 17

(2) 65

Nature of supplies to remaining houses:

13 houses supplied by private systems

11 houses supplied by wells

4 houses supplied by Liverpool supply

1 house supplied by Rural District supply.

The houses supplied by wells are isolated dwellings on the outskirts of the town some considerable distance from the mains.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

The water has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The Corporation gathering grounds and impounding reservoir at Penygwely, together with the storage reservoirs at Mount Road do not normally provide a sufficient supply for the requirements of the town, but it is possible to augment this by drawing 250,000 gallons per day from the Liverpool Corporation Lake Vyrnwy Aqueduct, this latter supply being obtained under powers granted by an Act of Parliament.

The treatment given consists of an average period of seven days storage followed by rapid filtration with the prior addition of lime and coagulant, lime and calgon after filtration, and chlorination by the Chloramine system.

The water supply to all parts of the town is constant and more than 99 per cent. of all dwelling houses have direct supplies or stand pipes within easy reach.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

REPORTS OF ANALYSIS

Ref. K/TH/67 (Raw Water).

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance: Slight opalescence with a slight flocculent deposit.

Microscopical examination: Mineral and organic debris;
diatoms, chlorophyceae, protozoa.

Turbidity: 3

Colour: Filtered: 18

Odour: Nil

pH: 7.2

Free Carbon Dioxide: Trace

Electric Conductivity: 66

Total Solids: 45

Chlorine present as Chloride 7 Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate 11

Hardness: Total: 25 Carbonate: 11 Non-carbonate: 14

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.6

Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.000

Oxygen Absorbed: 1.8

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.063

Residual Chlorine: ...

Metals: Iron: 0.03, Manganese: less than 0.03,
other metals absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C
developing on Agar	7 per ml.	12 per ml.	150 per ml.

Presumptive Coli-	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
aerogenes Reaction	10 ml.	1 ml.	13 per 100 ml.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS (Cont.).

	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Bact. coli. (Type I)	10 ml.	1 ml.	13 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, very soft in character, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and it is free from metals apart from negligible traces of iron and manganese. It shows noticeable but not marked colour and is of satisfactory organic quality for this raw water. Similarly bacterial impurity indicative of contamination by matters of excremental origin is confined to the presence of Bact. coli in very moderate number. No exceptional difficulty would be anticipated in the treatment of this water for the production of a public supply.

17th May, 1955.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

REPORTS OF ANALYSIS

Ref. K/TH/68 (Tap Water).

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance: Bright with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity: Less than 3

Colour: 7

Odour: Nil

pH: 8.3

Free Carbon Dioxide: Absent

Electric Conductivity: 84

Total Solids: 55

Chlorine present as Chloride: 7 Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 15

Hardness: Total: 30 Carbonate: 15 Non-carbonate: 15

Nitrate Nitrogen: 0.4

Nitrite Nitrogen: Less than 0.01

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.035

Oxygen Absorbed: 0.90

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.40

Residual Chlorine: 0.10

Metals: Iron: Less than 0.03, Manganese: 0.10,

other metals absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of Colonies	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
developing on Agar	0 per ml.	1 per ml.	2 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
aerogenes Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS (Cont.).

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, very faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron and manganese. The water is very soft in character and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

17th May, 1955.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Number of houses connected to public sewers	3,511
Number of houses connected to satisfactory private sewage disposal or treatment works	40
Number of houses without satisfactory means of sewage disposal	12

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Number of wards in the town	6
Number of wards where refuse is collected	6

Method of collection: By direct labour.

Method of disposal: Controlled Tipping.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I beg to present my section of the Departmental Report for 1955; the various tables and short comments on housing, the control of the production and sale of food, milk, ice cream, meat inspection, nuisance abatement, vermin control and other items must serve as an indication of the increasing field of environmental health work.

R. J. LEWIS,

Sanitary Inspector.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

HOUSING

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955.

PART A. CLEARANCE AREAS

(Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in the period		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit houses	Other houses	
(1) Land coloured pink and pink hatched yellow	-	-	-
(2) Land coloured grey	-	-	-

PART B. HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of	
	Houses	Persons displaced
<u>HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED IN THE PERIOD</u>		
(1) Housing Act, 1936.		
(a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11).	2	5
(b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	1	-
(c) Parts of building closed (Section 12).	-	-
(2) Housing Act, 1949.		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2)	-	-
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2).	6	22

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

HOUSING PART B.(Continued).

	Number of Houses
<u>REPAIRS in the period</u>	
(4) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of INFORMAL ACTION by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	50
(5) Public Health Acts - action after service of FORMAL NOTICE:	
Houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) By owners	7
(b) By local authority in default of owners	1
(6) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of FORMAL NOTICE (Sections 9,10,11 and 16):	
Houses made fit.	
(a) By owners	-
(b) By local authority in default of owners	-
(7) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	-

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

HOUSING (Continued).

PART C. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

Position at end of period	Number of Houses
(8) (a) Houses retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	-
(b) Separate dwellings contained in (a) above	-
(c) Houses licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	-

PART D. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses
(9) Houses in Clearance Areas, other than those included in confirmed Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the period	-

Clearance Area No.1.

In July 1955, the Council declared their first Clearance Area, comprising 125 houses and 15 other buildings, and covering an area of 4.16 acres.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

Number of Bakehouses	9
Number of Catering Premises	20
Number of Fish and Chip Shops	10
Number of Licensed Houses	46
Number of Snack Bars	3
Number of Butcher's manufacturing premises	16
Number of Ice Cream Producers (Cold Mix)	1

During the year a great deal of time was spent inspecting food premises and carrying out the Health Education which does not hit the headlines but which counts most of all - 'on the spot' advice to food handlers, in their day-to-day surroundings. Pressure on food traders brought about structural improvements.

Unfortunately, the housewives do not show the constant desire for clean food trading which the activities of their various organisations suggest - how else can one explain the large quantities of cooked meats which are bought after standing in a shop window in summer, or on the counter of a warm store.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

FOOD POISONING

The eight cases in the year involved eight households, and detailed investigation was possible in five cases involving two households. In the other three cases time and distance factors meant the cases were not purely local.

1. Mr. A. Taken ill at work, prompt notification by family doctor. Food eaten during previous few days, with accent on meals within previous 24 hours, suggested that meat pasties might be the cause, as Mr.A had been taken ill during the afternoon and for midday meal had had pasties which his wife had bought and warmed in the oven. One pasty, not eaten, had been broken in two and thrown into the dustbin, and this one, together with two others of the same batch obtained from the baker, was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. This seemed, from the doctor's report and from the patient's symptoms, to be a "text-book case" of enterotoxin food poisoning caused by contamination of a made-up meat product with the bacterial growth accelerated by warming. The Laboratory reports did not support this supposition and the case remained unsolved.

2. Mr. and Mrs. B. son and daughter. Taken ill during Monday night, notification received Wednesday, then visited. One meal taken away from home since Saturday evening.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Joint cooked on Saturday and stored in 'meat safe', being eaten cold for Sunday dinner, Monday dinner and tea. Gravy, made from the meat fat and jelly, was served on Sunday and Monday middays. No portion of the remains of the meat could be obtained, but the meat jelly and fat used for gravy making was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. There had originally been a layer of fat over the meat jelly, but on Sunday the removal of some of the fat exposed the surface of the meat jelly, the surface exposed on Sunday being used on Monday to make gravy. The Laboratory reports supported the supposition that the family illness could have been caused by contaminated meat jelly.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

MILK

Number of Distributors registered	8
Number of Dairies registered	2
Number of T.T. (Distributor) Licences issued	8
Number of Pasteurising Plants in the Borough	2
Number of Pasteurised (Distributor) Licences issued	8
Number of retailers of undesignated milk	1

Sampling.

	No. Taken	No. Satis- factory	Failed M.B.	Failed Phos.	Failed M.B. & Phos.	Biological Pos. Neg.
Pasteur- ised and T.T. Past- eurised	16	16	-	-	-	- -
T.T.	32	26	6	-	-	- 1
Undesig- nated	1	1	-	-	-	- -

All milk sold retail in the Borough is bottled and an increasing amount is heat-treated.

ICE CREAM

Number of Registered Manufacturers	1
Number of Registered Retailers	38

Sampling.

No. Taken	No. Satis- factory	Grades				Faecal Coli Present
		1	2	3	4	
12	8	4	4	4	-	-

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

CREAM CAKE FILLINGS

Sampling.

	No. Taken	Organisms per Gram			Faecal coli present	Chemical & Odour	
		Below 1,000	1,000- 10,000	Over 10,000		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory.
Cream Cakes	17	5	2	7	5	-	-
Cream Cake fillings	5	-	-	4	1	-	-
TOTAL	22	5	2	11	6	-	-

Research work at the Central Public Health Laboratory shows that the problem of producing a cream with low bacterial count is fraught with difficulties, and it has been suggested that it should be made permissible, if not a necessity, to add agents to synthetic creams in order to control bacterial growth.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

PUBLIC BATHS

The continuing lack of a water filtration plant at the baths is much to be regretted. It is to be hoped that the installation scheme and other improvements will be completed in the not too distant future.

Sampling.

	No. Taken	No. Satis- factory	Organisms per 1,000 ml.	Faecal coli present
Baths Water	4	4	Maximum 2	-

OTHER SAMPLES SUBMITTED

Water, taken at food premises	11
Minced meat	2
Meat Pasties	3
Meat fat and jelly	1
Tinned Lamb's Tongues	3
Water Cress	1

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

MEAT INSPECTION
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1362	147	107	9168	4310
Number inspected	1362	147	107	9168	4310
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	4	6	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	421	49	2	387	49
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	30.9	33.3	5.6	4.28	1.25
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	2	-	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	51	9	-	-	256
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.8	6.8	1.8	-	5.9

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

The two slaughterhouses which were operated as a unit by the Ministry of Food continued after decontrol as the slaughtering premises for the Oswestry Butchers Wholesale Meat Supply Co. Ltd., and this Company continues to serve a slightly larger area than before. Three other small private slaughterhouses are licensed; one is used regularly three times a week for killing cattle and sheep; one is used regularly twice a week for killing sheep and sometimes cattle. The third has not been used.

There is a very great need for modern premises if slaughtering is to continue in Oswestry for any appreciable period. Oswestry, since decontrol, has maintained its position as the central slaughtering point for the rural areas around. This is in keeping with the town's history as a market town serving the Welsh hills to the West and the Shropshire Plain to the East.

I am grateful to my Rural District Colleagues for continuing the sharing of meat inspection duties at the Willow Street premises.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

Animals slaughtered at Willow Street premises and
examined by Rural District Council and Borough Inspectors:-

<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Calves</u>
1,362	147	-	9,168	4,310	107

Animals slaughtered at two private slaughterhouses and
examined by Borough Inspector:-

<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Calves</u>
242	1	1,736	132	109

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

Number registered 1

The premises are inspected regularly and the bedrooms are disinfested as a routine measure in the Spring and Autumn.

NUISANCES

(Excluding those included in housing repair return).

Number of complaints received during the year ... 29

Number abated by informal notice 18

Number abated by statutory notice 6

Number abated after Court proceedings 1

No action taken 5

Referred to other departments 6

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The joint scheme with the Oswestry Rural District Council remains in operation, and serves the town satisfactorily. Apart from the Corporation Refuse Tip, all infestations were of a minor type; with the cooperation of the builders workmen, a developing infestation on the College Road housing site was eliminated.

OSWESTRY MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Bug Infestation.

Infested houses dealt with:

Private	3
Council	Nil

One of the infestations was fantastically heavy for this day and age, and other accommodation had to be found for the children before it could be dealt with. Modern insecticides rapidly and completely eliminated the infestation.

Other Vermin.

Infested houses dealt with:

Private	2
Council	2

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

The two Cinemas in the town are inspected.

The licensed houses have not yet received my full attention, but I am aware that improvements in the sanitary accommodation of many are needed.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.-INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of			Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local authorities	36	5	3		-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	72	24	9		-
TOTAL	108	29	12		-
2.-CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").					
Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector By H.M. Inspector		
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	12	12	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	12	12	1	1	-

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Rainfall:- The total rainfall for the year was 25.38 inches.

Average for previous 6 years 33.52 inches.

WATER SUPPLY

The following parishes are provided with a public water supply:-

	No. of houses supplied direct.	No. of houses supplied by stand-pipe.
Selattyn	269	-
Weston Rhyn	536	3
St. Martins	544	-
Whittington	821	-
Oswestry Rural	695	19
Llanymynech	194	-
Llanyblodwel	106	2
Total	3,165	24

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF PIPED SUPPLIES FROM PUBLIC MAINS.

Date.	Supply.	B. Coli per 100 ml.	Faecal coli.
24.5.55.	Maesbury. {Chlorinated}.	0	0
17.10.55.	Maesbury. {Spring No.2}.	3	0
16.11.55.	Maesbury. {Spring No.3}.	1	0
16.11.55.	Maesbury. {Spring No.2}.	7	0
22.11.55.	Maesbury. {Chlorinated}.	18 plus	0
8.2.55.	Mardy. {Chlorinated}.	0	0
8.2.55.	Mardy. {Chlorinated}.	0	0
27.6.55.	Mardy. {Chlorinated}.	0	0
13.9.55.	Mardy. {Chlorinated}.	0	0
13.9.55.	Mardy. {Chlorinated}.	18 plus	0

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF PIPED SUPPLIES (Cont.).

Date.	Supply.	B. Coli per 100 ml.	Faecal coli.
21.9.55.	Mardy. (Chlorinated).	0	0
10.10.55.	Mardy. (Chlorinated).	0	0
4.4.55.	Nantmawr. (Chlorinated).	0	0
13.9.55.	Nantmawr. (Chlorinated).	0	0
24.5.55.	Porthywaen. (Chlorinated).	0	0
13.9.55.	Porthywaen. (Chlorinated).	0	0
13.9.55.	Sweeney. (Reservoir).	20	0
21.9.55.	Sweeney. (Reservoir).	180 plus	180 plus
28.9.55.	Sweeney. (Main Spring).	25	3
28.9.55.	Sweeney. (Spring No.2).	50	0
28.9.55.	Sweeney. (Reservoir).	90	0
4.10.55.	Sweeney. (Spring Chamber).	8	0
4.10.55.	Sweeney. (Spring Chamber 1).	50	0
17.10.55.	Sweeney. (Spring).	5	0
25.10.55.	Sweeney. (No.1 Chamber).	20	0
25.10.55.	Sweeney. (Reservoir).	35	0
25.10.55.	Sweeney. (Collecting Chamber).	50	0
16.11.55.	Sweeney. (Suction Chamber).	17	0
5.12.55.	Sweeney. (Chamber No.2).	10	0
5.12.55.	Sweeney. (Suction Chamber).	35	0
4.4.55.	Trefonen. (Chlorinated).	25	0

Public Water Supplies.

The year has more or less seen the completion of the priority part of the comprehensive water scheme. Areas now served include the Racecourse, Pantglas, and Treflach. Selattyn which has had a very poor quality water in the past is now connected up to the Mardy source and the old works disconnected.

The supply of water to Melferley, Kinnerley and Edgerley districts has been under consideration by the Council for some time. Eventually it is intended to serve these areas from

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

the headworks at Ruyton Xl. Towns, but the Council appreciating the desperate need for water in these areas have negotiated with the War Department with a view to obtaining a supply of water from a camp borehole as a temporary expedient until such times as the water from Ruyton is available. These areas are in urgent need of a piped water supply as also is Ruyton and West Felton. The population of Ruyton, Meverley, and Edgerley, at the present time depend on local supplies from dairies, wells, and springs, but in the main, drinking water is obtained from the Council who deliver water twice weekly to the districts by means of a tank mounted on a motor lorry. The householders store the water in churns and other similar receptacles and often complain about stagnation, during the summer months in particular.

Private Water Supplies.

Sixty five samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken during the year.

16 Satisfactory.

49 Unsatisfactory.

Private supplies have had considerable attention during the year, particularly where applications have been received for Improvement Grants. Before applications are brought to the notice of the Council, samples of water are taken where

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

wells etc. are involved and the applications put forward when the water has been rendered satisfactory and regarded as safe.

The lack of a wholesome and adequate water supply is proving an obstacle in many instances where owners wish to improve cottages, and this of course, is another very good reason for a piped water supply being available in all parts of the district.

SEWERAGE

The number of houses connected to the public sewer is... 1,997

The new sewerage scheme at Morda was completed early in the year.

HOUSING

Number of Council Houses in the process of erection during the year	147
---	-----

Number of Council Houses completed during the year	73
--	----

Number of Private Houses in the process of erection during the year	63
---	----

Number of Private Houses completed during the year	58
--	----

Number of Council Houses planned for 1956	8
---	---

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Seventy one premises have been inspected jointly by the Engineer and Sanitary Inspector during the year for the purpose of grant-aided improvements. The practice is to make a

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

preliminary joint inspection in the first instance and the applicant is then informed whether the premises will rank for grant or not. This method ensures that the applicant is not put to the expense of plans etc. unnecessarily. The joint inspection also ensures that no conflicting action is taken by the Engineering and Health Departments.

No. of tentative applications received ... 71

No. of definite applications received 25

No. of applications approved 25

No. of applications refused Nil.

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year a quick survey of houses previously placed in category 4 was made and a total of 428 houses were considered to be of sub-standard. A schedule of the houses was submitted to the Council and it is anticipated that the question of Demolition Orders and rehousing will be considered in the near future.

FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES

Three premises were dealt with in conjunction with the N.S.P.C.C. In two cases good progress was made, whilst the third presented a more difficult problem and involved an old lady who will eventually have to be removed as a person in need of proper care and attention.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

Refuse collection is carried out by direct labour and 3 vehicles and 9 men are employed on the work. A collection is made in 11 of the 13 parishes, and a daily collection from a large military camp. Disposal is by means of tipping in disused ponds and gravel pits, and the time has now arrived when a suitable site must be provided for the northern part of the area. The Council has given instructions for the survey of the existing sewage disposal works at Weston Rhyn with a view to using it as a refuse disposal site when abandoned as a sewage disposal works. This site would serve the Gobowen, St. Martins, and Weston Rhyn areas.

Salvage is still collected in conjunction with refuse and to stimulate collection of this material the workmen receive an incentive bonus.

PROVISION OF ASHBINS

Informal Notices

2

Complied With

2

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Although it is often stated that one cannot make a comparison between atmospheric pollution in large towns and Rural Districts, the need for a clean atmosphere is equally important, and when pollution does occur from the industrial chimney the problem is equally as difficult to deal with. In this district pollution has arisen from industrial chimneys, spoil banks at a colliery, and dust from quarries. During the year conversion from solid fuel to oil fired boilers has taken place at a large dairy and the amount of smoke now emitted from the chimney is almost negligible. A similar conversion is in progress at similar premises.

Fumes and smoke from a colliery spoil bank have given considerable trouble. The only solution to this problem has been the use of water sprays which carried out constantly has helped considerably to minimise the nuisance. However, it is not likely that the bank will be in use much longer. The National Coal Board have decided to commence a new tipping site and it is hoped that most combustible substances will be picked out before reaching the tip. The new site will mean the abandonment of the present bank and, therefore, there should be no further nuisance arising from smoke and fumes.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The quarry which is troublesome has very old cupolas, and the solution to the present problem arising from the emission of dolomite dust is not an easy one. The Company concerned has informed us that they have in mind extending the quarry, which if carried out, will mean reconstruction and new plant. Until this is done every effort is being made to reduce and confine the dust to as small an area as possible.

Pollution from domestic chimneys cannot be overlooked and as more urbanised areas are developed within Rural Areas, the need for keeping a watching brief over the type of grate fixed becomes greater.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The provisions of the above Act are exercised as in previous years by a Joint Committee of the Oswestry Borough and Oswestry Rural District Councils. Two men are employed full time and treatment of premises carried out by contract. No free service is given to private dwellings. Servicing companies also operate in the district.

NUISANCES

Number dealt with by informal notice	117
Number complied with	71
Number of Abatement Notices	6
Number complied with	4

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS

Complaints against two owners for failing to comply with Abatement Notices were made to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction. The Magistrate made an Order requiring compliance in each case within three months. The three months had not terminated at the end of the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Five new licences were applied for and granted and two renewals were also granted, making a total of seven licensed moveable dwellings in the district.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are no public conveniences in the district, but the Council have under consideration the provision of conveniences at the Racecourse, Gobowen, and Llanymynech.

FOOD PREPARING PLACES

Fried Fish Shops.

Number of registered premises	7
Number of Inspections	8
Number of notices served	Nil.
Number complied with	Nil.

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FOOD PREPARING PLACES (cont.).

Bakehouses.

Number of Premises	8
Number Inspected	8
Number of Inspections	16
Number of Written Notices	4
Number complied with	4

Cafes and Restaurants.

Number of Premises	10
Number Inspected	10
Number of Inspections	14
Number of Notices served	6
Number complied with	6

Meat Product Preparing Rooms.

Number of Premises	3
Number Inspected	3
Number of Inspections	12
Number of Notices served	Nil.
Number complied with	Nil.

ICE-CREAM PREMISES

Number of Registered Premises 39

There are no manufacturing premises in the district.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Distributors.

Dealers Licences authorising Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	9
Dealers Licences authorising Special Designation "Pasteurised"	7
Dealers Licences authorising Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)"	4
Supplementary Licences authorising Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	4
Supplementary Licences authorising Special Designation "Pasteurised"	4
Number of Registered Distributors	15

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Private Slaughterhouses.

Number in District 1

Whole Carcases Condemned.

1 sheep putrefaction of abdomen.

Offal and Part Carcases Condemned.

Reason.

4½ pig's heads	Tuberculosis.
1 pig's liver	Tuberculosis.
10 sets of pigs lungs	Pneumonia.
3 sets of pigs lungs	Congestion.
1 part carcase of pig	Arthritis.
1 pig's kidney	Hydronephrosis.
1 sheep's pluck	Parasitic Infection.
3 sets of sheep's lungs	Strongyli Rufuscens
Part of sheep's breast	Pleurisy.
Trimnings of sheep	Difficult parturition.

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Continuing

Offal and Part carcasses Condemned.

Reason.

6 sheep's livers	Parasitic Infection.
5 parts sheep's livers	Parasitic Infection.
13 parts beast's livers	Fluke and Angioma.
1 beast's liver	Multiple abscesses.
2 beast's lungs	Tuberculosis.
1 beast's head	Cysticercus bovis.

MEAT INSPECTION

The Rural Sanitary Inspector also carried out Meat Inspection at the two slaughterhouses situated in the Oswestry Borough. This is a joint arrangement made between the Borough and Rural District authorities, the Borough and Rural Inspectors carrying out the inspection in alternate weeks. Since decontrol of slaughtering, the slaughterhouses, hitherto used by the Ministry of Food are now used by the Oswestry and District Meat Company.

The following carcasses were inspected by the Rural Inspector at the Meat Company's slaughterhouse.

<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
726	52	4,521	2,076

OSWESTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MISCELLANEOUS MEAT AND FOODS CONDEMNED.

Meat.

42 lbs. cooked beef.
15 lbs. 12 oz. tinned Luncheon Meat.
18 lbs. 4 oz. Empire beef.
3 x 12 oz. tins Minced Beef Loaf.
12 lbs. tinned Corned Beef.

Vegetables.

43 lbs. Dried Marrow-fat peas.
1 x 6 lbs. 5 oz. tin processed peas.
48 lbs. 9 oz. tins Peeled Tomatoes.

Fish.

2 lbs. 4oz. cod fillets.
12½ lbs. headless cod.
1 box selected kippers.
1 x 7 lb. box haddock.
2 x 14 oz. tins pilchards.

Milk.

6 tins full cream
evaporated milk.
3 x 2 pint tins
evaporated milk.

Fruit.

1 x 6 lbs. tin Apple Puree.
3 x 1 lb. 13 oz. tins Pears.
2 x 1 lb. 4 oz. tins Pineapple cubes.
7 x 14 oz. tins Peaches.
5 x 1 lb. 14 oz. tins Apricots.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.-INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	5	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	67	43	8	-
TOTAL	72	48	9	-

2.-CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more, separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	referred To H.M. Inspector By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-				
(a) Insufficient	2	2	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	3	-

Factories Acts continued.

PART III OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in send- ing list to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Making etc. apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-

